

ORDINARY MEETING

OF

CITY STRATEGY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Time: 9:30 am
Date: Thursday, 10 August 2017
Venue: Committee Room 1
Ground Floor, Council Offices
101 Wakefield Street
Wellington

MEMBERSHIP

Mayor Lester
Councillor Calvert
Councillor Calvi-Freeman
Councillor Dawson
Councillor Day
Councillor Eagle
Councillor Foster
Councillor Free
Councillor Gilberd
Councillor Lee
Councillor Marsh
Councillor Pannett (Chair)
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Incorporated
Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust

Have your say!

You can make a short presentation to the Councillors at this meeting. Please let us know by noon the working day before the meeting. You can do this either by phoning 803-8334, emailing public.participation@wcc.govt.nz or writing to Democratic Services, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, Wellington, giving your name, phone number and the issue you would like to talk about.

AREA OF FOCUS

The role of the City Strategy Committee is to set the broad vision and direction of the city, determine specific outcomes that need to be met to deliver on that vision, and set in place the strategies and policies, bylaws and regulations, and work programmes to achieve those goals.

In determining and shaping the strategies, policies, regulations, and work programme of the Council, the Committee takes a holistic approach to ensure there is strong alignment between the objectives and work programmes of the seven strategic areas of Council, including:

- Environment and Infrastructure – delivering quality infrastructure to support healthy and sustainable living, protecting biodiversity and transitioning to a low carbon city
- Economic Development – promoting the city, attracting talent, keeping the city lively and raising the city's overall prosperity
- Cultural Wellbeing – enabling the city's creative communities to thrive, and supporting the city's galleries and museums to entertain and educate residents and visitors
- Social and Recreation – providing facilities and recreation opportunities to all to support quality living and healthy lifestyles
- Urban Development – making the city an attractive place to live, work and play, protecting its heritage and accommodating for growth
- Transport – ensuring people and goods move efficiently to and through the city
- Governance and Finance – building trust and confidence in decision-making by keeping residents informed, involved in decision-making, and ensuring residents receive value for money services.

The City Strategy Committee also determines what role the Council should play to achieve its objectives including: Service delivery, Funder, Regulator, Facilitator, Advocate

The City Strategy Committee works closely with the Long-term and Annual Plan committee to achieve its objectives.

Quorum: 8 members

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1 Meeting Conduct

1.1 Apologies

The Chairperson invites notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

1.2 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 August 2017 will be put to the City Strategy Committee for confirmation.

1.4 Public Participation

A maximum of 60 minutes is set aside for public participation at the commencement of any meeting of the Council or committee that is open to the public. Under Standing Order 3.23.3 a written, oral or electronic application to address the meeting setting forth the subject, is required to be lodged with the Chief Executive by 12.00 noon of the working day prior to the meeting concerned, and subsequently approved by the Chairperson.

1.5 Items not on the Agenda

The Chairperson will give notice of items not on the agenda as follows:

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of the City Strategy Committee.

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the City Strategy Committee.

No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the City Strategy Committee for further discussion.

2. Policy

DRAFT ANIMAL POLICY FOR CONSULTATION

Purpose

1. To seek the City Strategy Committee's agreement to consult the public on the proposed Animal Policy.

Summary

2. Currently no formal document summarises existing Council operational practice around animal management other than the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw, Part 2: Animals (Animal Bylaw). Following the 2016 review of the Bylaw, officers have been directed by the City Strategy Committee to develop an Animal Policy.
3. The proposed purpose of the draft policy is to promote animal welfare, to support and encourage the responsible care of animals, to minimise incidents relating to animals, and to aid the implementation of the Animal Bylaw.
4. The draft policy and officer analysis of content is included in attachment 1. The draft policy covers the following:
 - The role of the Council and other organisations it works with
 - Best practice animal welfare, including hoarding and roaming.
5. Educational factsheets have been developed alongside the draft Animal Policy using feedback from key stakeholders. The factsheets provide detailed guidance on best practice animal care while the policy provides high-level guidance. Educational content is an important way to support regulatory tools such as policies and bylaws. The factsheets contain information on the following:
 - Domestic, stray and feral cats, including desexing, microchipping and minimising the impact of domestic cats on wildlife
 - Poultry (chickens and roosters) in urban areas
 - Beekeeping
 - Stock and goats in urban areas.
6. Pets and animals are important companions to many Wellingtonians and animal management can be an emotive topic. The draft policy and approach to consultation and engagement aims to recognise this.
7. Engagement with key stakeholders has taken place throughout the development of the draft Animal Policy. An Engagement and Consultation Plan has been developed, in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy (SEP). A summary of this plan was seen by CSC on 16 March 2017.
8. Formal consultation is proposed to take place from 4th September to 9th October. Officers will then analyse public feedback and report this back to committee with the recommended changes.
9. Dogs and dog exercise areas are excluded from the Animal Policy as they are covered by the Dog Policy. This was reviewed alongside the bylaw in 2016.

Recommendations

That the City Strategy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree to consult on the proposed Animals Policy and Factsheets, included in Attachment 2.
3. Agree that the consultation period will run from 4 September till 9 October 2017.
4. Agree to delegate to the Chief Executive and the Chair of the City Strategy Committee, the authority to amend the proposed Animal Policy, Factsheets and consultation document, to include any amendments and any associated minor consequential edits agreed by the Committee.

Background

Animals in Wellington

10. Cats are a popular pet for Wellingtonians. There are no official records of the number of cats in Wellington but according to Te Ara, the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, approximately 52 percent of New Zealand households own a cat (there are 71,000 households in Wellington, and some will have more than one cat). Victoria University of Wellington's Cat Tracker Survey estimates that approximately 35% of Wellington households own a cat.
11. Poultry ownership is also becoming more popular in Wellington. There are no official records of the number of poultry in Wellington. Encouraging urban agriculture is an important platform in enabling Wellington to be resilient.
12. Rooster numbers in the city are estimated to be very low. There is high probability that nuisance will occur with roosters in urban areas because it is difficult to stop roosters from crowing loudly.
13. Animals traditionally kept as livestock are becoming increasingly popular in urban areas, e.g. goats, horses, pigs, alpacas and donkeys.
14. Wellington is a bee friendly city. Encouraging urban agriculture, such as beekeeping, is an important platform in enabling Wellington to be resilient.
15. High numbers of pigeons in cities are caused by people feeding them. Some people enjoy feeding animals such as ducks and pigeons. Pigeons in Wellington tend to live in commercial areas, close to public places, and areas with a higher human density. Pigeon culls have been previously decided against by the Council. Reducing food sources is the most effective way to manage the pigeon population. Pigeon nesting and faeces causes damages to buildings, particularly in the central city.
16. Dog ownership in Wellington is popular, with nearly 11,000 dogs registered. The Dog Policy, along with dog exercise areas are out of scope for this project as they were reviewed alongside the Animal Bylaw in 2015-2016.

Pest management

17. Pest management is largely dealt with through Our Natural Capital – Wellington's Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan and Greater Wellington Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Strategy (RPMS).

18. Pigeons and stray cats are excluded from pest management strategies. Responsibility for resolving pest issues associated with these animals is a grey area. Feral cats are included with the RPMS.

Animal Bylaw review

19. The Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008, Part 2: Animals (Animal Bylaw) review took place from November 2015 to August 2016. It provides the Council with powers to manage animals. The purpose of the Animals Bylaw is to protect the public from nuisance, maintain and promote public health and safety. It also provides the Council with legal powers to enforce the Dog Policy under the Dog Control Act 1996.
20. Consultation on the proposed changes to the Animal Bylaw ran from 1 April to 2 May 2016. The Council received 496 written submissions from a variety of different sectors of the community, largely in support of the proposed changes.
21. Key changes to the bylaw following the review were:
- Compulsory microchipping of domestic cats over the age of 12 weeks to be microchipped and registered with New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR)
 - Requiring Council permission to keep any roosters in urban areas
 - Requiring Council permission to keep more than eight chickens or other poultry birds in an urban area
 - Banning the feeding of animals (including pigeons and stray and feral cats) except dogs in public places, unless in a designated area such as a duck pond.
22. Cat management was a key focus of public debate during the bylaw review. Cats were explicitly excluded from previous versions of the Animal Bylaw, and there is no national legislation to manage the undesired effects of cat ownership.
23. Requiring permission to keep more than a set number of cats per household and compulsory desexing were options that were explored as part of the review. Officers advised against these requirements, as there is no registration system for cats it would be extremely difficult to monitor. A high majority of cats in Wellington are already desexed. Hoarding and wildlife conflicts can be managed in more effective ways.
24. A night-time cat curfew was not consulted on or proposed in the Animal Bylaw. A curfew was suggested as an option by some submitters. Officers noted at the time that the practicality of a strict cat curfew would need to be considered if it were to be investigated in future. The need for a curfew would also need to be informed by robust evidence.

Need for Animal Policy

25. Midway through the Animal Bylaw review in 2016 the need for an Animal Policy was identified. Currently no formal document summarises existing Council operational practice around animal management other than the Animal Bylaw. A policy can provide a framework for non-regulatory options, guide operations and the public, and create options for implementation of the Animal Bylaw.

Microchipping programme

26. To help cat owners meet their new requirements under the Bylaw, free microchipping sessions have been held at community centres across the city during May – June 2017. Officers worked with the SPCA following the success of the snip'n'chip programme in late 2016.

27. In total 366 cats were microchipped: with 106 in Tawa, 72 in Northland, 72 in Karori, 70 in Strathmore, and 48 at the SPCA.

Discussion

Education - factsheets

28. Educational factsheets have been developed using feedback from key stakeholders alongside the draft Animal Policy. These factsheets provide detailed guidance on best practice animal care. These have been developed following guidance from Councillors at City Strategy Committee on the 16 March 2017 for officers to report back with non-regulatory options to support the Animal Policy and the Animal Bylaw.
29. Education is an important way to inform animal owners of their legal obligations as well as best practice animal care. Educational content is an important way to support regulatory tools, such as policies and bylaws. Factsheet content can be supported through other communication methods such as the Council website, social media, and non-digital platforms. Factsheets, included in attachment 2, have been developed for:
- Cats
 - Bees
 - Chickens and other poultry
 - Stock, such as goats (focusing on urban areas).
30. Analysis of the roles of bylaws, policies and educational material (in this case factsheets) are detailed on the table below.

	Bylaw	Policy	Factsheet
Intent	Sets out regulation	Implementation of bylaw regulation <i>High level</i> educational material	Sets out <i>detailed</i> educational material
Content	Must pass bylaw and LGA tests Unable to include broad educational material	Can make policy statements (if consultation requirements met) Best practice to keep concise High level education information on best practice	Can provide detailed educational guidance on best practice Consistent with bylaw and policy
Enforcement	No infringement fees, but sets up expectation of enforcement Limited to abatement notices and court processes	No expectation of enforcement by itself Can set up mechanisms to support bylaw enforcement	Educational
Consultation	Required to undertake Special Consultative Procedure (LGA s83)	Required to meet consultation principles (LGA s82)	No LGA requirement to consult, but need to make assessment under Significance and Engagement Policy (SEP)

			Content can be updated easily if situation or advice changes
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Engagement during development of draft Policy

31. An Engagement and Consultation Plan has been developed, in accordance with the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy (SEP). This draft plan has considered the project’s significance; risk factors; various stakeholders; and resourcing available for the review. A summary of this plan was seen by CSC on 16 March 2017.
32. A full assessment of significance has been undertaken on the Animal Policy development using the criteria specified in the SEP. This project was assessed to have a “medium” significance rating, due to the low strategic impact but high level of public interest in the matters covered by the policy.
33. Relationships with stakeholders have been established during the Animal Bylaw review. Engagement with these stakeholders is planned to continue, but does not need to repeat previous work.
34. Engagement and consultation are split into two stages. The first stage is engaging with stakeholders identified in the Engagement and Consultation Plan during the development of the draft policy. The second stage is broad consultation with stakeholders and the wider public on the proposed policy.

Engagement during draft policy and factsheet development

35. Officers have met with the Youth Council and Environmental Reference Group.
 - The Youth Council is interested in promotion of the factsheets post adoption of the policy.
 - The Environmental Reference Group raised concerns in relation to trap neuter release methods. Specifically the unsuitable living conditions for stray cats, due to the lack of care cats receive and any impact on wildlife.
 - The Environmental Reference Group discussed mustelids and rats being kept as pets and walked in public which could pose welfare issues when taken on public transport.
 - The Environmental Reference Group suggested a factsheet could be produced to provide advice and education on feeding native birds appropriate foods.
 - A meeting with the Pacific Advisory Group is to be arranged when meetings resume following the election process.
36. The Makara/Ohariu Community Board discussed goat tagging and the timeline of the policy development, and a meeting is scheduled in August with the Tawa Community Board.

SPCA

37. The Wellington SPCA and the Council are working together to form a collaborative approach to animal management in Wellington. Working together helps both organisations and aims to ensure that Wellington’s animals are well cared for.

Cats – key stakeholders

38. Ongoing engagement with key stakeholders in the cat sector has been undertaken, following the high degree of public interest in the cat section of the Animal Bylaw. The

intent of this is to ensure that the policy effectively addresses the cat sector's needs as well as the wider communities.

39. Workshops on the draft Animal Policy were held with key stakeholders on 26 June and 10th July. These were attended by representatives from Cat Protection League, New Zealand Vet Association, NZCAR, Wellington SPCA, Wellington Zoo and Outpawed. These workshops provided useful feedback on the draft Policy and education material, with discussions including:

- Best practice animal care (five domains of animal welfare)
- Importance of microchipping and registering microchip details
- Desexing and its central role in humanely reducing stray cat numbers
- Reducing the conflict between cats and wildlife.

40. Stakeholders have also had meetings with officers to discuss their views, in addition to the workshops. Officers have met with Kitten Inn and Feline Rights.

Bees – key stakeholders

41. A bee focused workshop on the draft Animal Policy was held on 28 June. This was attended by representatives from Capital Bee Keeping. Apiculture New Zealand were also sent copies of the draft policy and factsheet for feedback. Attendees noted that they supported our approach to bees in the Bylaw. Feedback was provided on the draft policy and education material, including clarifying information around the flight path of bees.

Poultry – key stakeholders

42. A workshop on the draft Animal Policy was held on 28 June. It was attended by Helping You Help Animals (HUHA) and Wellington, Hutt Valley and Districts Poultry and Pigeon Club. Both the draft bylaw and supporting education material were discussed, with feedback including:

- Adequate containment and roaming of poultry
- Welfare of poultry
- Dumping of roosters

Stock – key stakeholders

43. Stock in urban areas has been discussed with the SPCA. Through the consultation process with the wider public feedback on this topic will be sought.

Options

Scope of Animal Policy and proposed content

44. The City Strategy Committee agreed on 16 March 2017 to a scoping paper of an Animal Policy, with a draft purpose to encourage responsible pet ownership, and set out more information around the potential implementation of the Animal Bylaw. The agreed scope of the content for officers to investigate included:

- Cats (including recognising them as companion animals and; having a focus on education and incentives to assist with managing conflicts with wildlife)
- Poultry (including roosters)
- Bees

- Animal management in an emergency
 - Where animals (including pigeons) can be fed in public places.
45. Attachment 1 shows the draft policy and factsheet content on these topics, and details feedback and analysis from officers on the proposed content.

Proposed changes to scope

46. During the policy development process officers assessed that additional content on best practice animal care and stock in urban areas. Animal management in emergencies was assessed to be better suited for non-regulatory options.
47. Caring for animals and best practice animal welfare has been identified by stakeholders as important issues. They tie into creating responsible animal owners. A section has been included in the draft policy on animal care.
48. Stock in urban areas is increasing in popularity. Clarifying the regulations around stock being kept as pets in urban areas is useful for the community. A small section on this is proposed to be included in the draft policy. Officers advise against the Animal Policy covering stock in rural areas, as this would likely impact farm land which is managed by other authorities.
49. Animal management in an emergency is important. Officers advise that this content may not be best suited for a policy, as it could reach more animal owners if provided elsewhere, such as education material and listed on our website. An option is to work with WREMO to encourage including provisions for pets in emergency kits.
50. This paper has not addressed where animals could be fed in public places as this is operational rather than a policy issue.

Out of scope

51. Dogs and amending dog exercise areas is out of scope for the Animal Policy. The Dog Policy and associated dog exercise areas were reviewed alongside the Animal Bylaw.
52. Officers recommend that any further changes to dog exercise areas take place after the completion of planned upgrades and the addition of planned new fenced areas. These are planned to be completed by 2019.

Consultation

53. Consultation on the draft of the Policy is proposed to run from 4th September to 9th October. Attachments include the proposed consultation material:
- Attachment 1: Draft policy and factsheets with explanation on content
 - Attachment 2: Consultation document including policy and factsheets
54. Advertising consultation on the draft policy and factsheets will be undertaken via existing Council channels. These include making copies of consultation documents and submission forms available on wellington.govt.nz; in the Service Centre; at all libraries; community centres; and via the Contact Centre. The general public will also be notified via the Council's social media channels. Submitters on the Animal Bylaw will also be notified.
55. Groups from across the community will also be encouraged to have their say. We will work with stakeholders to ensure their networks are notified. Councillors are

encouraged to advertise the consultation with their constituents. Community Boards and advisory groups will also be worked with and officers will work with the Treaty Relations teams to seek feedback from iwi.

56. The proposed consultation process is in line with LGA and the SEP. Consultation will be taken under section 82 of the LGA. Oral hearings are not proposed, due to the significance rating of this project under the SEP. Oral hearings are not required to meet our LGA requirements.
57. Engagement with key stakeholders and other parties will be undertaken alongside the consultation process.

Education – Factsheets

58. It is proposed to include the factsheets (educational pamphlets on best practice animal care) with the other consultation material. Public feedback on them will be useful in identifying any information gaps or inconsistencies.
59. As stated previously, the factsheets have been developed following guidance from Councillors at City Strategy Committee on the 16 March 2017 for officers to report back with non-regulatory options to support the Animal Policy and the Animal Bylaw.

Next Actions

Date	Task
4 September – 9 October	Formal consultation on draft Animal Policy
October – November	Analysis of feedback
Early December	City Strategy Committee reviews feedback from consultation and any proposed changes to the draft Animal Policy
Early December	Adopted by Council

Attachments

Attachment 1.	Attachment 1: Draft policy and explanation on content	Page 16
Attachment 2.	Attachment 2: Draft consultation document	Page 34

Author	Alice Bates, Policy Advisor
Authoriser	Baz Kaufman, Manager Strategy Kane Patena, Director Governance and Assurance

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Engagement and Consultation

An Engagement and Consultation Plan has been drafted, and was agreed by the City Strategy Committee on 16 March 2017. This plan has considered the project's significance; risk factors; various stakeholders; and resourcing available for the review. The plan was developed in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Officers will work with the Tira Poutama: Iwi Partnerships team to ensure that Treaty of Waitangi considerations are taken into account.

Financial implications

There are limited budget provisions for the implementation of the Animal Policy. The Council currently has limited animal welfare capability. These issues will be investigated as part of the upcoming Long Term Plan development.

Policy and legislative implications

The Animal Policy review will take into account potential policy and legislative implications following the decisions made by the City Strategy Committee on this paper.

Risks / legal

The draft Policy is considered to have low level of legal risk as it either provides clarity about the implementation of the existing Animal Bylaw or contains nonbinding educational material. Officers will review any potential content amendments throughout the policy development process to ensure policy content and processes are legally robust.

Climate Change impact and considerations

No considerations at this point.

Communications Plan

A communication plan has been developed to support the engagement and consultation process.

Health and Safety Impact considered

Health and safety must be a consideration for any actions proposed under the Animal Policy.

Attachment 1: Draft policy and factsheets with explanation on content

Animal Policy (draft)	
Draft Animal Policy	Analysis and rationale for proposed policy content
<p>1 Introduction</p> <p>This Policy has been developed to promote animal welfare, to support and encourage the responsible care of animals, to minimise incidents of harm and nuisance relating to animals, and to aid the implementation of the Animal Bylaw. It sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the legal framework and key requirements for animal owners goals for animals in Wellington what the Council does, where you can go for further information. <p>As part of the Policy the Council also has developed factsheets for pet owners, their neighbours, and Wellingtonian's. They include general good practice tips to assist animal owners and others to look after their pets, as well as tips for neighbours who encounter issues with neighbour's pets. They also include sources of further useful information.</p>	<p>An introductory section sets the scene for the policy by clarifying why there is a policy, and what the intention of the policy is.</p> <p>There is also the introduction of the factsheets and a summary of the content within them.</p> <p>The proposed content is consistent with the Animal Bylaw and the scope agreed by the City Strategy Committee.</p>
<p>2 Legal framework</p> <p>The Council adopted the revised Animal Bylaw in August 2016. Amongst other things, the Bylaw requires animal owners and people in charge of animals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure their animal has adequate physical wellbeing through acceptable nutrition, environmental, health, behavioural stimulus, and adequate mental well-being; and not cause a nuisance to any other person. <p>These Bylaw requirements are aligned with obligations in the Animal Welfare Act 1999, which also apply to owners and persons in charge of animals.</p> <p>Dogs and designated dog off-leash areas are covered separately in the Dog Policy, developed</p>	<p>The legal framework section provides a high-level background to the policy.</p> <p>Dogs and other animals (including pest management) are dealt with by various policies. It is important to clarify this upfront, so that readers can find the information they are looking for.</p> <p>Dogs and dog exercise areas are not included within the scope of the Animal Policy, as they are covered by their own policy. This was reviewed alongside the Animal bylaw in 2016.</p>

<p>under the Dog Control Act 1996. Non-domestic animals in Wellington are largely managed through Our Natural Capital – Wellington's Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan and Greater Wellington Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Strategy.</p>	
<p>3 Goals for animals in Wellington</p> <p>Animals in Wellington are entitled to lead healthy and happy lives. Five domains need to be satisfied to ensure that animals are leading happy lives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nutrition: animals are provided with suitable nutritious food and clean water • environment: animals have a safe home in an appropriate environment with suitable shelter • health: animals are physically healthy and have access to veterinary care • behaviour: animals participate in satisfying and engaging activities and play • mental state: animals experience positive emotions. <p>Keeping animals in poor conditions and in unmanageable quantities can lead to animal welfare issues. This can create a wide variety of issues for communities and can also have public health impacts.</p> <p>Animals that roam are more likely to be injured and could potentially cause nuisance to other people in the neighbourhood.</p>	<p>Section 3 intends to provide a high level summary on important aspects of animal welfare and responsible animal ownership. This reflects and supports an increased focus on animal welfare in the Animal Bylaw.</p> <p>The five domains, discussed in section 3, are best practice welfare standards. The Wellington Zoo uses these criteria to assess the welfare of their animals. This section also establishes what “responsible ownership” is.</p> <p>Feedback from the Animal Bylaw showed that the public have concerns about hoarding and welfare. This intends to clarify how the Council manages this.</p> <p>Under the Animal Welfare Act the SPCA is able to act to address hoarding and ill-treatment, but have noted that they sometimes feel ‘like the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff’. By working with the SPCA and sharing information with them (when appropriate and in line with the Privacy Act), the intention is to help them act, if necessary, to ensure the best outcomes for both animals and people.</p> <p>Requiring permission to keep more than a set number of cats was proposed during bylaw, but decided against due to it being impractical. The quality of care rather than the number of animals kept is important. The proposed wording of the policy aims to reflect this.</p>
<p>4. What the Council does</p> <p>To support owners and the welfare of animals in Wellington, the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigates and responds to public 	<p>The intention of this section is to explicitly clarify the roles of both the Council and the agencies it works with.</p> <p>Section 4 intends to provide increased</p>

<p>complaints and queries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • works closely with the SPCA and our community partners to encourage responsible animal care • assists animal owners to meet their responsibilities through education; and • supports the community to manage stray cat numbers through humane management practices, including supporting rehoming, de-sexing and microchipping programmes. <p>Under the Bylaw, the Council may seize any domestic animal (other than domestic cats) found at large and not on their owner’s property. If a seized animal is unable to be returned to its owner after 7 days, the Council may sell, re-home, or otherwise dispose of the animal.</p> <p>The Council will endeavour to return any seized animal to their owner, including scanning any animal for microchips.</p> <p>The Council will work with community partners, such as the SPCA, to ensure that a suitable arrangement is made for the animal.</p> <p><i>Ill-treatment of animals</i> In Wellington City the SPCA enforces the Animal Welfare Act 1999. The Council endeavours to support them in this role, and if appropriate may share information and resources in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993.</p> <p><i>Feral animals</i> Management of feral animals in Wellington is covered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Regional Pest Management Strategy. For detailed information about feral cat and goat management, contact Greater Wellington Regional Council.</p>	<p>transparency around the role the Council can play in animal care in Wellington.</p> <p>It is also aimed to provide increased transparency around roaming animals that are seized. The procedure outlined reflects the Impounding Act.</p> <p>The SPCA is responsible for animal welfare in Wellington, under the Animal Welfare Act. Council officers currently have no training in animal welfare, but to have training in public health. Working in partnership with the SPCA intends fill the gaps in the Council’s skill set and help ensure that both organisations working towards common goals.</p> <p>Feral animal management is outside of the Council’s scope, as they are managed by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). The Council works with GWRC when appropriate.</p>
<p>5. Further information</p> <p>Wellington City Council (2016), Wellington Consolidated Bylaw: Part 2 – Animals Greater Wellington Regional Council, Regional Pest Management Strategy Ministry for Primary Industries (2007), Companion Cats: Code of Welfare National Cat Management Strategy Group (2016), Draft New Zealand National Cat Management Strategy Background Document Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest</p>	<p>The purpose of section 5 is to enable the public to find further information.</p>

Management Plan) Order 1998	
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Cat Factsheet (draft)	
Draft Animal Policy	Analysis and rationale for proposed policy content
<p>Cats are a popular choice of companion pet for Wellingtonians. They are much more independent in comparison to other pets, but with independence there is the potential for conflict with other cats and wildlife, and potential for nuisance. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington’s pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet aims to provide advice on how these elements can be provided for your cat.</p> <p>This fact sheet refers to ‘ownership’. This includes any cat you own or one which is in your care.</p>	<p>An introductory section sets the scene for the factsheet by clarifying why there is a cat factsheet, and what the intention is.</p>
<p><u>Your cat</u> Responsible cat ownership includes caring for your pet’s welfare needs, desexing and microchipping and registering the microchip with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR). As a cat owner you have responsibilities toward your cat, other animals, and members of the community.</p> <p>There are also local requirements and standards for keeping a cat that must be adhered to. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellington City Consolidated Bylaw 2008, Part 2: Animals (Animals Bylaw) • Wellington City Council, Animal Policy, 2017. 	<p>This section provides some background information to the factsheet. Prompting people to the animal bylaw and the animal policy.</p>
<p><u>Microchipping and Desexing</u> All Wellington cats must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age, in accordance with the Council’s Animal Bylaw requirements. The microchip is required to be registered with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, which stores the owners contact details. If a cat is separated from its owners, the owner’s details can be looked up and the cat returned to its owner. People need to remember to update the register when contact details change. You can do this yourself through the NZCAR website: www.animalregister.co.nz.</p>	<p>This section focuses on the benefits of microchipping. The registration database is administered by NZCAR is a branch of the New Zealand Companion Animal Council (NZCAC). NZSPCA, the New Zealand Kennel Club, the New Zealand Vet Association, and the New Zealand Cat Fancy are trustees of NZCAC.</p> <p>Including data from Christchurch intends to demonstrate to owners</p>

<p>For situations such as earthquakes this has proven an effective method of reuniting cats and owners. In the Canterbury earthquakes thousands of pets went missing. Over 80 per cent of animals that were microchipped were quickly reunited with their owners. Microchips also mean if your cat is involved in an accident and injured or killed, it can be scanned for a microchip and you can be contacted if you are registered as the owner.</p> <p>Desexing is also strongly recommended. Annually, the SPCA receives over 7,000 unwanted kittens. In addition, many more are inhumanely killed or abandoned in the wild. This problem can easily be prevented by desexing. Cats should be desexed when 1-kilogram in weight, which is approximately around 10 weeks old. Most cats from shelters will already have had the procedure done. For further guidance you should discuss desexing with a vet.</p> <p>Before obtaining a cat you may want to consider ethically sourcing a cat from a rescue centre. In most cases they will already be desexed and microchipped and there are many unwanted cats and kittens in need of a home.</p>	<p>the benefits of microchipping and registering.</p> <p>It is recommended that cats are desexed to help stop unwanted breeding.</p> <p>Compulsory desexing was investigated as part of the Animal Bylaw review, but decided against as it would be difficult to administer. Unlike with microchipping there is not pre-existing database.</p> <p>As with microchipping, including data on desexing intends to illustrate the benefits of it.</p>
<p><u>Lost cats</u></p> <p>In the unfortunate event of your cat going missing, there are a number of options available to assist with finding your cat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make sure the microchip details are up to date • create a flyer and distribute it around your neighbourhood, post on Neighbourly.co.nz • contact neighbours, and ask them to check their properties • check and post online, such as: petsonthenet.co.nz, Trade Me Lost and Found section, Neighbourly, and social media • check with local vets and leave a flyer • check your old property if you have recently moved. <p>If you find or come across a cat you suspect is lost, there are numerous avenues that you can use to find the cats owner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contact the SPCA for advice • contact neighbours to check if they are missing a cat • create a flyer and distribute it around your neighbourhood • check and post online, such as: petsonthenet.co.nz, Trade Me Lost and Found 	<p>This section offers practical advice and steps that can be taken if a person has lost their cat or has found a cat that they suspect is lost.</p>

<p>section, neighbourly, and social media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • notify local vets and leave a flyer. 	
<p><u>Stray and feral cats in Wellington</u> There are three recognised groupings of cats: domestic, stray and feral cats.</p> <p>Domestic cats live with people as companions and are dependent on humans for their welfare. It is recognised that domestic cats are important companions to many Wellingtonians.</p> <p>Stray cats are companion cats which are lost or abandoned and living as an individual or in a group (colony). They have many of their needs indirectly supplied by people. They live around centres of human habitation, either individually or in a colony. Stray cats can also breed with undesexed domestic cats. Stray cat populations can provide unsuitable living conditions for cats due to the lack of care cats receive.</p> <p>Feral cats have none of their needs provided by people and do not live around centres of human habitation.</p> <p>Feral cat management in Wellington is covered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council’s Regional Pest Management Strategy. For detailed information about feral cat management, contact Greater Wellington Regional Council.</p> <p>The Council supports humanely managing the number of stray cats, by supporting suitable community groups to neuter and provide appropriate care to stray cats and stray cat colonies. These programmes would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have cat adoption as an integral part of the programme • prevent or minimise the immigration of cats • continually monitor the cat population • include researchers as active participants • involve carers/semi-owners • ensure the cat colony is well managed and the programme is adequately resourced over the long term • ensure stakeholders have an understanding of the programme and its aims • properly evaluate and report on the programme outcomes. • not conflict with wildlife management priorities. 	<p>The stray and feral cats in Wellington section intends to clarify what stray and feral cats are. Feedback from the Bylaw reviewed showed that there was confusion around the various categories of cat. By defining what stray and feral cats are (along with a domestic cat) the intention is to create a common language.</p> <p>These definitions are based off the <i>Animal Welfare (Companion Cats) Code of Welfare</i>, which is a supporting document to the Animal Welfare Act. Changing them could create inconsistencies.</p> <p>Feral cat management is outside of the Council’s scope, as they are managed by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC). The Council works with GWRC when appropriate.</p> <p>The Animal Welfare Act and the <i>Animal Welfare (Companion Cats) Code of Welfare</i> sets out strict guidelines around the welfare and trapping of cats. This is enforced by the SPCA.</p>

<p>The SPCA is responsible under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to ensure that any community groups manage the animals humanely.</p>	
<p><u>Options for wildlife predation minimisation</u> There are a number of options available to people to who are concerned about conflict between cats and local wildlife. Roaming cats can hunt native wildlife – even well fed cats will hunt. Options to reduce predation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitored outdoor time • containment, such as having a cat enclosure or cat proof fencing. If containment is used it is all the more important to provide things to do throughout the day and night. • providing them with toys that encourage activity and play can be a productive channel for their hunting instincts. This will prevent your cat from being bored and provide mental stimulation. • ensuring your cat has plenty of food, and feeding them indoors. If you feed them at least twice a day it means they are more likely to stay around home. • anti-predation products, such as bells on cat collars. <p>If you live close to an ecologically sensitive area you are encouraged to take greater steps to protect local wildlife from predation.</p>	<p>Here the potential for conflict between cats and wildlife is covered. Evidence shows that cats are causing damage to wildlife. While cats may hunt rodents, they are not an effective means for pest control.</p>
<p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> All cat owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies as part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal and any medications • a cat carrier to transport a cat to a safe a location, in case of a need to evacuate • a litter tray • a backup plan in case primary caregivers are unable to take care of animals • microchip details up to date with the NZCAR. <p>If an event occurs cats should be kept inside in case there is the need to evacuate and need to locate them quickly.</p>	<p>This section offers advice on making emergency preparations and plans for their pets as they would for themselves and family.</p>
<p><u>Care and costs</u> Cats need your care and attention. Owning a cat is</p>	<p>By providing estimated costings for cat care it is hoped that a realistic</p>

<p>rewarding but there are costs that come with ownership. In 2015, the NZCAC estimated that caring for a cat costs around \$670 a year. Costs include food, veterinary care, and care of your cat while you are travelling. For more information see: www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources/owning-a-cat.</p> <p><u>Minimising nuisance</u> Providing a litter tray may stop your cat doing its business on your vegetable patch or neighbouring gardens. This can be done through a normal indoor litter tray, or creating an area of soft soil or sand in the garden. This will require regular cleaning up but may help reduce cat nuisance.</p> <p>Some people chose to keep their cats in at night and this offers some cat welfare benefits such as they are less likely to be hurt in fights, pick up disease, or be hit by cars.</p>	<p>picture of a responsible cat owner can be set.</p> <p>Through engagement with stakeholders the issue of cats leaving mess at neighbouring properties arose. The provision of soft soil may help reduce such nuisance incidents.</p>
<p><u>Resolving disputes</u> If you suspect your or your neighbour's cat has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.</p> <p>If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444</p> <p>If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call the SPCA on 389 8044</p>	<p>Contacts provided for the public should they have nuisance or welfare related concerns.</p>
<p><u>Further information</u> Further information can be found on WCC website: http://www.wellington.govt.nz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Bylaw (2016) • Animal Policy (2017) • Animal Welfare Act 1999 <p><u>Other</u> http://www.animalregister.co.nz http://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources/owning-a-cat MPI Animal Welfare (Companion Cats) Code of Welfare 2007 Draft NZ Cat Management Strategy (2016)</p>	<p>The purpose of this section is to enable the public to find further information.</p>

Poultry Factsheet (draft)

Draft Animal Policy	Analysis and rationale for proposed policy content
<p>Wellingtonians may own chickens and other such poultry as pets, or for the purpose of harvesting of eggs. Encouraging urban agriculture is an important part of enabling Wellingtonians to be resilient. This factsheet provides some advice on responsible poultry ownership. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington's pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play, and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet gives some advice on how these elements can be provided for your poultry.</p> <p>Poultry includes bird types such as chickens, ducks, geese, roosters, swans, and peacocks. As a poultry owner you have responsibilities toward your poultry and members of the community to not cause nuisance.</p>	<p>An introductory section sets the scene for the factsheet by clarifying why there is a poultry factsheet, and what the intention is.</p>
<p><u>Limits on numbers</u> There are limitations within urban areas, in accordance with the Animal Bylaw. Permission is required from the Council to have more than eight poultry or to keep a rooster in an urban area. It is difficult to manage roosters to stop them from crowing loudly, so there is high probability that nuisance will occur when kept in urban areas.</p> <p>Poultry are social animals and it is recommended you keep more than one. However, keeping a large number of poultry can create issues such as noise and odour, and public health issues if kept in unsatisfactory conditions. This problem is exaggerated in urban areas where many households are close together.</p>	<p>This section focuses on expanding the poultry regulations detailed in the Animal Bylaw, while also having an educational aspect.</p>
<p><u>Getting Permission</u> Applications for permission to keep poultry and roosters in urban areas should be made to the Council and detail the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • address of the property, and contact details for the applicant • the number of poultry/roosters the applicant wishes to keep • any relevant information about the welfare, hygiene, control, and confinement • any steps taken by the applicant to minimise any nuisance (including if they have discussed their application with neighbours) • any other information the applicant may see as being relevant. 	<p>If people want more poultry than is permitted without approval, information on how permission can be gained is provided here.</p>

<p><u>Housing your poultry</u> Before obtaining any poultry, the proper containment and provision of shelter needs to be considered, particularly in urban areas. Poultry should not be able to leave your property to roam. As well as a chicken coop for sleeping and egg laying, either an enclosed run or adequate fencing of your property is required to keep your chickens safe. Chickens will generally only go into their house to sleep, they won't go into their house during bad weather. For this reason they need to be provided with an alternative shelter so they can get out of the rain.</p> <p>When starting out with two or three chickens, providing an approximate space of 10 square metres is recommended. More chickens would require more space. If your poultry are too cramped they are likely to fight or have other behavioural issues and will require much more frequent cleaning up after.</p> <p>It is recommended your enclosed, rainproof chicken coop is set away from neighbouring fences, and that there is consideration of the location of the coop structure to avoid any nuisance. It is advised that you speak with your neighbours before taking ownership of any chickens. Providing facilities for roosting (e.g. perches), a surface for pecking and scratching, and a secluded nesting area is an expectation of chicken owners. Perches should be quite wide (around 10 centimetres), positioned off the ground and in a manner so chickens are able to comfortably perch when roosting. Poultry will also need enrichment and mental stimulation, this can be provided with food, toys such as swings, and an area to dust bathe in.</p>	<p>Poultry in urban areas are becoming more common. Best practice guidelines for keeping poultry in urban areas are set out in this section. These guidelines may also help the Council resolve nuisance complaints that may arise, as the criteria aim to mitigate factors that can cause nuisance.</p> <p>Through engagement with poultry groups recommendations were made on a minimum amount of chickens a person should have to prevent loneliness along with housing sizes and space required.</p>
<p><u>Poultry hygiene</u> Responsible animal ownership includes ensuring they do not cause public health concerns. Owners need to ensure they do as much as possible to keep the area clean, with chicken coops thoroughly cleaned out at least once a week. Nesting boxes and the floor of your chicken coop should be kept clean and dry. You could line them with hay, untreated wood chips, sawdust, or shredded newspaper so it can be easily removed when cleaned out.</p> <p>To avoid unpleasant smells, attracting flies to breed, mice to shelter and/or rats looking for food, owners should not allow excess food and chicken bedding waste to accumulate. At least once a week, make</p>	<p>Similar to the housing of poultry advice, poultry hygiene is also important for the welfare of poultry and help prevent nuisance incidents.</p>

<p>sure waste is collected, bagged, and disposed of. Scattering food across the ground can attract rodents. Owners can control this by using vermin proof receptacles specifically for poultry feeding. This also keeps the rain out, meaning your poultry have dry pellets or grain. Food should also be stored out of reach of rats, in a sealed shed.</p>	
<p><u>Sourcing your chickens</u> Remember that when hatching chickens from eggs, 50 percent of eggs hatched may be roosters. In urban areas this can result in roosters that cannot be kept without permission. Ethically sourced poultry is recommended, such as rescue hens. Battery farms often only keep hens for around 14 months and then they require new homes.</p>	<p>Through engagement with stakeholders the issue of people hatching eggs and then having unpermitted roosters in urban areas was raised. This section aims to educate on the potential situations that can arise from egg hatching.</p> <p>Re homing rescue hens is provided as an alternative solution for obtaining poultry.</p>
<p><u>Poultry care courses</u> There are courses available locally within Wellington to help with the basics of choosing the appropriate poultry for your situation and getting the right set up for your chickens and poultry to be comfortable. Gaining practical knowledge and experience prior to obtaining poultry is recommended.</p>	<p>This section informs on how people can gain further information about poultry care.</p>
<p><u>Poultry Costs</u> The costs of poultry and poultry set-ups vary. Chickens from suppliers generally charge \$15 to \$30 per chicken depending on the breed. Rescue hens that have been discarded by local factories are available from Helping You Help Animals for \$5. Chicken coops vary as they can be self-made, bought second hand from Trade Me or for as much as \$400 to \$500 new. A chicken run is also required. These require chicken wire and stakes generally sourced from hardware stores or Trade Me. There are other ongoing costs also such as food and veterinary care. Arrangements will also have to be made for the care of your poultry whilst you are travelling.</p>	<p>By providing estimated costings for poultry care it is hoped that a realistic picture of a responsible poultry owner can be set out prior to a person obtaining poultry.</p>
<p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> All poultry owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies. This can be part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal • a means of moving an animal to a safe a location in case of need to evacuate, such as a box to contain your poultry • a backup plan in case primary caregivers are 	<p>This section offers advice on making emergency preparations and plans for their pets as they would for themselves.</p>

unable to take care of animals.	
<p><u>Resolving disputes</u> If you suspect your or your neighbour's poultry has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.</p> <p>If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444.</p> <p>If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call the SPCA on 389 8044.</p>	Contacts provided for the public should they have nuisance or welfare related concerns.
<p><u>Further information</u> Further information can be found on WCC website - http://www.wellington.govt.nz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Bylaw (2016) • Animal Policy (2017) • Animal Welfare Act 	The purpose of this section is to enable the public to find further information.

Bee Factsheet (draft)	
Draft Animal Policy	Analysis and rationale for proposed policy content
Beekeeping is becoming more popular in Wellington with more people choosing to care for bees. Bees are very important for the environment as they pollinate crops and gardens. However bees kept in urban areas have the potential to cause a nuisance and therefore good hive management is important.	An introductory section sets the scene for the factsheet by clarifying why there is a factsheet, and what the intention is.
<p><u>Beekeeping – the basics</u> Bees forage for nectar, pollen, and water within a radius of up to 3 kilometres from the hive. The presence of too many bees in a single area can cause competition for food sources. It is not recommended that properties in urban areas have more than four hives, as this ensures enough food sources for all bees in the area and bee numbers do not become a nuisance or intimidate neighbours.</p>	Section 8 details the various requirements for bee keeping in Wellington. Bees are covered in the Animal Bylaw under the general nuisance clause. Feedback was received during the Bylaw review that this was not clear enough. This section aims to remedy that, and clearly set out the regulations around bee keeping, as well as best practice.

Minimising nuisances

Flight path management

Depending on the size and suitability of your property, consider the number of hives, suitability of fencing, and controls to limit potential nuisances. Hives should be positioned so they don't become a nuisance, preferably in a sheltered and sunny spot. Avoid placing hives close to a neighbour's house or driveway, or near frequently used areas such as vegetable gardens, clotheslines, or children's play areas. In a residential section the hive should be situated behind a 2-metre high fence, trellis, or hedge so that the bees have to fly up above anyone walking around – especially your next door neighbour.

Bees defecate small round waxy yellow spots usually soon after leaving the hive and sometimes beekeepers receive complaints from neighbours about bee droppings on windows, freshly washed cars, and washing. If bee flightpaths become a nuisance, the problem may be alleviated by turning the hive so that the entrance faces a different direction or moving it to another location on the section (no more than 1 to 2 metres per day otherwise bees may get lost). It is important that flightpaths are not directed across pathways on private and public land. Beekeeping associations may be able to provide further advice on this topic (see below).

Water

Beekeepers should provide water within several metres of the hive if no natural resources are available. This will reduce visits by thirsty bees to neighbours' wet washing, swimming pools, and bird baths etc. Provide water by letting a tap drip very slowly into a shallow dish or tray containing sand or pebbles (so bees won't drown when drinking).

Nectar/Pollen

Bees should have access to a variety of bee-friendly plants and trees preferably as close to the hive as possible. Garden catalogues often identify which plants attract bees. You can also visit <http://www.treesforbees.org.nz>.

Swarm prevention

Although swarming is the natural means of dispersal of honey bee colonies, responsible beekeepers can minimise swarming in urban areas by re-queening on an annual basis, splitting a

Urban bee keeping can create nuisance issues, but this can be mitigated. These guidelines in the minimising nuisances section may also help the Council resolve nuisance complaints that may arise, as the criteria aim to mitigate factors that can cause nuisance.

<p>nucleus colony from populous hives (artificial swarming), and re-queening colonies that have been started from swarms.</p>	
<p><u>Community Beekeeping</u> Permission is required to keep bees on any Council administered land, such as parks and reserves. Applications are assessed by the Council, and may be granted subject to conditions. If a licence is approved, a fee is payable. For more information on applications and the conditions, please see Wellington City Council Guidelines for Community Beekeeping on Public Land, available on the website.</p>	<p>This section details the need for Council permission before establishing a hive on Council land.</p>
<p><u>Legal Requirements</u> Beekeepers are required by law to register their apiary withASUREQuality Ltd to enable surveillance of hives for exotic pests and diseases. Beekeepers must display their Apiary Registration number at each apiary (usually on each hive). More information on pest management can be found at afb.org.nz. Monitoring needs to be carried out to protect honey bees from exotic pests and diseases.</p> <p>It is not necessary to obtain a licence from the Council to keep bees on private land in Wellington City.</p>	<p>This section details the requirement for hives to be registered, as per the Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan) Order 1998 and the Biosecurity Act 1993.</p>
<p><u>Starting with Bees</u> The best way to test your liking for beekeeping is to gain practical experience before you get hives of your own – either with an individual beekeeper or by joining the local beekeeping club. If you are not prepared to look after hives properly, do not get any. Varroa is a parasitic mite that will kill any colonies that are not managed on a regular basis, and neglected hives are a nuisance to the public and a potential source of bee diseases. In general, hives will need to be checked or ‘worked’ by the beekeeper at least every three weeks in summer and about once or twice over the winter months.</p>	<p>The section offers advice on how potential bee keepers can gain further practical experience and knowledge.</p> <p>This was advised through engagement on the draft animal policy and bee keeping factsheet.</p>
<p><u>Beekeeper Costs</u> You will need a protective suit (usually one-piece that includes a veil), gumboots, gloves, a smoker and hive tool (about \$250 in total). An initial hive with four boxes will cost about \$400, a nucleus colony of bees with a new queen (\$250). Apiary registration (a legal requirement) costs about \$35. All up you should be prepared to pay about \$1,000 initially for one hive. Two hives will cost about</p>	<p>By providing estimated costings for bee keeping it is hoped that a realistic picture of a responsible bee keeper can be set.</p>

<p>\$1650 in total. It is recommended that you start with two nucleus colonies as an insurance against one queen failing. If this happens you can unite the hives or swap broods between them.</p>	
<p><u>Resolving issues</u> If you suspect your or your neighbour's bees have become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.</p> <p>If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444.</p>	<p>Contacts provided for the public should they have nuisance or welfare related concerns.</p>
<p><u>Further information</u> Further information can be found on WCC website - http://www.wellington.govt.nz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Bylaw (2016) • Animal Policy (2017) <p>Other useful websites about bees and beekeeping: Wellington Beekeepers Association. - http://www.beehive.org.nz/ American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan – http://www.afb.org.nz Trees For Bees - http://www.treesforbees.org.nz AsureQuality - http://www.asurequality.com Apiculture NZ - www.apinz.org.nz</p>	<p>The purpose of this section is to enable the public to find further information.</p>

Livestock Factsheet (draft)	
Draft Animal Policy	Analysis and rationale for proposed policy content
<p><u>Traditional stock and companions?</u> Wellingtonians on occasion keep animals as pets that were traditionally kept as livestock. This includes sheep, pigs, llamas, alpacas, donkeys, goats, cattle, and horses. However, in urban areas, there is higher probability that nuisance may occur. Whether kept as pets or for the purpose of being farmed, responsible ownership is vital. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington's pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet provides advice on how these elements can be provided for your livestock.</p>	<p>An introductory section sets the scene for the factsheet by clarifying why there is a factsheet, and what the intention is.</p>

<p><u>Stock animals – the basics</u> As with all animals, livestock rely on owners to provide for a number of essentials. Responsible pet ownership helps ensure animals do not create any nuisance or welfare related issues. Before obtaining any livestock the suitability and size of your property should be considered for the type of stock in mind. All animals require shelter and a form of housing, to be contained on a property with fencing, drainage, and waste disposal to limit any potential nuisances. It is also important to remember that you are responsible for the health of your animal, including veterinary care.</p>	<p>This section reinforces the welfare and nuisance message and provides an overview of what people will need to consider before obtaining livestock.</p>
<p><u>Caring for your livestock</u> Stock animals need to be provided with fresh food and water daily and to be kept in clean environments, with dry and warm sleeping areas. A number of materials can be used for such purposes, such as hay, sawdust, and untreated wood chips that should be cleaned and replaced at least once a week.</p>	
<p><u>Hygiene</u> Responsible ownership includes ensuring your livestock do not cause public health concerns. Owners need to ensure they do as much as possible to keep the area in and around a stock housing structure clean.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that cleaned out bedding is removed from the property within a week. Vermin such as mice and rats can become an issue if food is left out and on the ground. Rat and mouse excrement can contaminate livestock feed and water, as well as expose humans to the diseases rats and mice carry in their excrement. Vermin proof receptacles are available, which also keep out the rain, providing stock with good access to food.</p>	<p>Hygiene is important for the animal's welfare and reducing nuisance incidents.</p> <p>Rats and contamination of food is a problem for the animals and people also.</p>
<p><u>Tethering of stock animals</u> Tethering is sometimes used as a method of confining animals. Such a method should only be carried out for temporary and short periods of time. If tethering is necessary, the animal must be checked on regularly, at least once every 12 hours to check there is enough food and water and that the animal has not become entangled. Clean fresh water should be placed well within the perimeter of the tether, as well as supplementary food where grazing is not possible. There should also be shelter from weather conditions. A strong tether</p>	<p>This section explains that tethering is not an ideal way of confining animal, but if it has to be done then there are basic amenities and standards that should be supplied for the duration of being tethered.</p>

<p>such as a light chain with a durable collar is recommended to keep the animal secure.</p>	
<p><u>Walking your stock in public</u> Exercise and mental stimulation is important for all animals. As with dogs, it is important that stock be kept on a lead and under control at all times. This will ensure the safety of the animal and members of the community. Any mess left by the animal should also be appropriately cleaned up and disposed of.</p>	<p>Council have received reporting's of people walking livestock in public. If this is to be a growing trend this section aims to clarify what is expected when doing as such.</p>
<p><u>Emergency Preparedness</u> All livestock owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies as part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal • A means of moving an animal to a safe a location in case of need to evacuate • A back up plan in case primary caregivers are unable to take care of animals. 	<p>This section offers advice on making emergency preparations and plans for their pets as they would for themselves.</p>
<p><u>Goat Tags</u> The population of feral goats is managed in Wellington and therefore all owned goats must wear an ear tag (an RFID, radio frequency identification device or similar) or collar to indicate they are not feral.</p>	<p>This section clarifies the requirements of the bylaw around goats tagging.</p>
<p><u>Resolving disputes</u> If you suspect your or your neighbour's livestock has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.</p> <p>If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444</p> <p>If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call SPCA on 389 8044</p>	<p>Contacts provided for the public should they have nuisance or welfare related concerns.</p>
<p><u>Further information</u> Further information can be found on the following websites: www.wellington.govt.nz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Bylaw (2016) • Animal Policy (2017) • www.mpi.govt.nz • Animal Welfare (Goats), Code of Welfare 2012 	<p>The purpose of this section is to enable the public to find further information.</p>

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Attachment 2: Consultation document including policy and factsheets

Have your say on our draft Animal Policy

For many Wellingtonians, their pets are part of their families not just acting as pets but also providing companionship. The aim of the Animal Policy is to encourage responsible pet ownership, and to provide information around the requirements of the Animal Bylaw.

We're keen to know what everyone, including residents and ratepayers, thinks of this draft policy. The policy outlines the role of the Council and other agencies that work in the animal sector. There is also information about caring for domestic animals, such as the freedoms that all animals deserve through providing basic animal welfare and processes governing nuisance incidents, unmanageable quantities, and ill treatment of animals.

As well as the policy there are also factsheets to provide more educational information about caring for cats, poultry, livestock, and bees. The sheets provide tips for what people may want to consider before committing to a pet. There are also links to useful sources of information and organisations.

How to have your say

The Council is keen to know what residents, ratepayers, and stakeholders think about the proposed animal policy and factsheets.

Please make a submission online at www.wellington.govt.nz.

Alternatively, you can go to www.wellington.govt.nz print the FreePost submission form and post it to us (no stamp required) at:

FreePost
Wellington City Council
Animal Policy consultation (KC1F02)
Wellington City Council
PO Box 2199
Wellington 6140

Copies of the draft policy can be viewed at our service centre at 101 Wakefield Street and city libraries.

Submission forms are also available from these locations.

If you would like us to send you a copy of the draft policy and submission form, please phone 04 499 4444 or email policy.submission@wellington.govt.nz

A final report on the Animal Policy will be considered by the Council's City Strategy Committee in early December, with the Council making a decision later that month.

Written submissions open on 4th of September and close at 5pm on the 9th of October.

Proposed Animal Policy

1 Introduction

This Policy has been developed to promote animal welfare, to support and encourage the responsible care of animals, to minimise incidents of harm and nuisance relating to animals, and to aid the implementation of the Animal Bylaw. It sets out:

- the legal framework and key requirements for animal owners
- goals for animals in Wellington
- what the Council does,
- where you can go for further information.

As part of the Policy the Council also has developed factsheets for pet owners, their neighbours, and Wellingtonians. They include general good practice tips to assist animal owners and others to look after their pets, as well as tips for neighbours who encounter issues with neighbour's pets. They also include sources of further useful information.

2 Legal framework

The Council adopted the revised Animal Bylaw in August 2016. Amongst other things, the Bylaw requires animal owners and people in charge of animals to:

- ensure their animal has adequate physical wellbeing through acceptable nutrition, environmental, health, behavioural stimulus, and adequate mental well-being; and
- not cause a nuisance to any other person.

These Bylaw requirements are aligned with obligations in the Animal Welfare Act 1999, which also apply to owners and persons in charge of animals.

Dogs and designated dog off-leash areas are covered separately in the Dog Policy, developed under the Dog Control Act 1996. Non-domestic animals in Wellington are largely managed through Our Natural Capital – Wellington's Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan and Greater Wellington Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Strategy.

3 Goals for animals in Wellington

Animals in Wellington are entitled to lead healthy and happy lives. Five domains need to be satisfied to ensure that animals are leading happy lives:

- nutrition: animals are provided with suitable nutritious food and clean water
- environment: animals have a safe home in an appropriate environment with suitable shelter
- health: animals are physically healthy and have access to veterinary care
- behaviour: animals participate in satisfying and engaging activities and play
- mental state: animals experience positive emotions.

Keeping animals in poor conditions and in unmanageable quantities can lead to animal welfare issues. This can create a wide variety of issues for communities and can also have public health impacts.

Animals that roam are more likely to be injured and could potentially cause nuisance to other people in the neighbourhood.

4. What the Council does

To support owners and the welfare of animals in Wellington, the Council:

- investigates and responds to public complaints and queries
- works closely with the SPCA and our community partners to encourage responsible animal care
- assists animal owners to meet their responsibilities through education; and
- supports the community to manage stray cat numbers through humane management practices, including supporting rehoming, de-sexing and microchipping programmes.

Under the Bylaw, the Council may seize any domestic animal (other than domestic cats) found at large and not on their owner's property. If a seized animal is unable to be returned to its owner after 7 days, the Council may sell, re-home, or otherwise dispose of the animal.

The Council will endeavour to return any seized animal to their owner, including scanning any animal for microchips.

The Council will work with community partners, such as the SPCA, to ensure that a suitable arrangement is made for the animal.

Ill-treatment of animals

In Wellington City the SPCA enforces the Animal Welfare Act 1999. The Council endeavours to support them in this role, and if appropriate may share information and resources in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993.

Feral animals

Management of feral animals in Wellington is covered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Strategy. For detailed information about feral cat and goat management, contact Greater Wellington Regional Council.

5. Further information

Wellington City Council (2016), Wellington Consolidated Bylaw: Part 2 – Animals
Greater Wellington Regional Council, Regional Pest Management Strategy
Ministry for Primary Industries (2007), Companion Cats: Code of Welfare
National Cat Management Strategy Group (2016), Draft New Zealand National Cat Management Strategy Background Document
Biosecurity (National American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan) Order 1998

Proposed Cat Factsheet

Cats are a popular choice of companion pet for Wellingtonians. They are much more independent in comparison to other pets, but with independence there is the potential for conflict with other cats and wildlife, and potential for nuisance. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington's pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet aims to provide advice on how these elements can be provided for your cat.

This fact sheet refers to 'ownership'. This includes any cat you own or one which is in your care.

Your cat

Responsible cat ownership includes caring for your pet's welfare needs, desexing and microchipping and registering the microchip with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR). As a cat owner you have responsibilities toward your cat, other animals, and members of the community.

There are also local requirements and standards for keeping a cat that must be adhered to. These are:

- Wellington City Consolidated Bylaw 2008, Part 2: Animals (Animals Bylaw)
- Wellington City Council, Animal Policy, 2017.

Microchipping and Desexing

All Wellington cats must be microchipped by 12 weeks of age, in accordance with the Council's Animal Bylaw requirements. The microchip is required to be registered with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, which stores the owners contact details. If a cat is separated from its owners, the owner's details can be looked up and the cat returned to its owner. People need to remember to update the register when contact details change. You can do this yourself through the NZCAR website: www.animalregister.co.nz.

For situations such as earthquakes this has proven an effective method of reuniting cats and owners. In the Canterbury earthquakes thousands of pets went missing. Over 80 per cent of animals that were microchipped were quickly reunited with their owners. Microchips also mean if your cat is involved in an accident and injured or killed, it can be scanned for a microchip and you can be contacted if you are registered as the owner.

Desexing is also strongly recommended. Annually, the SPCA receives over 7,000 unwanted kittens. In addition, many more are inhumanely killed or abandoned in the wild. This problem can easily be prevented by desexing. Cats should be desexed when 1-kilogram in weight, which is approximately around 10 weeks old. Most cats from shelters will already have had the procedure done. For further guidance you should discuss desexing with a vet.

Before obtaining a cat you may want to consider ethically sourcing a cat from a rescue centre. In most cases they will already be desexed and microchipped and there are many unwanted cats and kittens in need of a home.

Lost cats

In the unfortunate event of your cat going missing, there are a number of options available to assist with finding your cat:

- make sure the microchip details are up to date
- create a flyer and distribute it around your neighbourhood, post on Neighbourly.co.nz
- contact neighbours, and ask them to check their properties

- check and post online, such as: petsonthenet.co.nz, Trade Me Lost and Found section, Neighbourly, and social media
- check with local vets and leave a flyer
- check your old property if you have recently moved.

If you find or come across a cat you suspect is lost, there are numerous avenues that you can use to find the cats owner:

- contact the SPCA for advice
- contact neighbours to check if they are missing a cat
- create a flyer and distribute it around your neighbourhood
- check and post online, such as: petsonthenet.co.nz, Trade Me Lost and Found section, neighbourly, and social media
- notify local vets and leave a flyer.

Stray and feral cats in Wellington

There are three recognised groupings of cats: domestic, stray and feral cats.

Domestic cats live with people as companions and are dependent on humans for their welfare. It is recognised that domestic cats are important companions to many Wellingtonians.

Stray cats are companion cats which are lost or abandoned and living as an individual or in a group (colony). They have many of their needs indirectly supplied by people. They live around centres of human habitation, either individually or in a colony. Stray cats can also breed with undesexed domestic cats. Stray cat populations can provide unsuitable living conditions for cats due to the lack of care cats receive.

Feral cats have none of their needs provided by people and do not live around centres of human habitation.

Feral cat management in Wellington is covered by the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Strategy. For detailed information about feral cat management, contact Greater Wellington Regional Council.

The Council supports humanely managing the number of stray cats, by supporting suitable community groups to neuter and provide appropriate care to stray cats and stray cat colonies. These programmes would:

- have cat adoption as an integral part of the programme
- prevent or minimise the immigration of cats
- continually monitor the cat population
- include researchers as active participants
- involve carers/semi-owners
- ensure the cat colony is well managed and the programme is adequately resourced over the long term
- ensure stakeholders have an understanding of the programme and its aims
- properly evaluate and report on the programme outcomes.
- not conflict with wildlife management priorities.

The SPCA is responsible under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to ensure that any community groups manage the animals humanely.

Options for wildlife predation minimisation

There are a number of options available to people to who are concerned about conflict between cats and local wildlife. Roaming cats can hunt native wildlife – even well fed cats will hunt. Options to reduce predation include:

- monitored outdoor time
- containment, such as having a cat enclosure or cat proof fencing. If containment is used it is all the more important to provide things to do throughout the day and night.
- providing them with toys that encourage activity and play can be a productive channel for their hunting instincts. This will prevent your cat from being bored and provide mental stimulation.
- ensuring your cat has plenty of food, and feeding them indoors. If you feed them at least twice a day it means they are more likely to stay around home.
- anti-predation products, such as bells on cat collars.

If you live close to an ecologically sensitive area you are encouraged to take greater steps to protect local wildlife from predation.

Emergency Preparedness

All cat owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies as part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:

- at least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal and any medications
- a cat carrier to transport a cat to a safe a location, in case of a need to evacuate
- a litter tray
- a backup plan in case primary caregivers are unable to take care of animals
- microchip details up to date with the NZCAR.

If an event occurs cats should be kept inside in case there is the need to evacuate and need to locate them quickly.

Care and costs

Cats need your care and attention. Owning a cat is rewarding but there are costs that come with ownership. In 2015, the NZCAC estimated that caring for a cat costs around \$670 a year. Costs include food, veterinary care, and care of your cat while you are travelling. For more information see: www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources/owning-a-cat.

Minimising nuisance

Providing a litter tray may stop your cat doing its business on your vegetable patch or neighbouring gardens. This can be done through a normal indoor litter tray, or creating an area of soft soil or sand in the garden. This will require regular cleaning up but may help reduce cat nuisance.

Some people chose to keep their cats in at night and this offers some cat welfare benefits such as they are less likely to be hurt in fights, pick up disease, or be hit by cars.

Resolving disputes

If you suspect your or your neighbour's cat has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.

If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444

If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call the SPCA on 389 8044

Further information

Further information can be found on WCC website: <http://www.wellington.govt.nz>

- Animal Bylaw (2016)
- Animal Policy (2017)
- Animal Welfare Act 1999

Other

<http://www.animalregister.co.nz>

<http://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/resources/owning-a-cat>

MPI Animal Welfare (Companion Cats) Code of Welfare 2007

Draft NZ Cat Management Strategy (2016)

Proposed Poultry Factsheet

Wellingtonians may own chickens and other such poultry as pets, or for the purpose of harvesting of eggs. Encouraging urban agriculture is an important part of enabling Wellingtonians to be resilient. This factsheet provides some advice on responsible poultry ownership. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington's pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play, and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet gives some advice on how these elements can be provided for your poultry.

Poultry includes bird types such as chickens, ducks, geese, roosters, swans, and peacocks. As a poultry owner you have responsibilities toward your poultry and members of the community to not cause nuisance.

Limits on numbers

There are limitations within urban areas, in accordance with the Animal Bylaw. Permission is required from the Council to have more than eight poultry or to keep a rooster in an urban area. It is difficult to manage roosters to stop them from crowing loudly, so there is high probability that nuisance will occur when kept in urban areas.

Poultry are social animals and it is recommended you keep more than one. However, keeping a large number of poultry can create issues such as noise and odour, and public health issues if kept in unsatisfactory conditions. This problem is exaggerated in urban areas where many households are close together.

Getting Permission

Applications for permission to keep poultry and roosters in urban areas should be made to the Council and detail the following:

- address of the property, and contact details for the applicant
- the number of poultry/roosters the applicant wishes to keep
- any relevant information about the welfare, hygiene, control, and confinement
- any steps taken by the applicant to minimise any nuisance (including if they have discussed their application with neighbours)
- any other information the applicant may see as being relevant.

Housing your poultry

Before obtaining any poultry, the proper containment and provision of shelter needs to be considered, particularly in urban areas. Poultry should not be able to leave your property to roam. As well as a chicken coop for sleeping and egg laying, either an enclosed run or adequate fencing of your property is required to keep your chickens safe. Chickens will generally only go into their house to sleep, they won't go into their house during bad weather. For this reason they need to be provided with an alternative shelter so they can get out of the rain.

When starting out with two or three chickens, providing an approximate space of 10 square metres is recommended. More chickens would require more space. If your poultry are too cramped they are likely to fight or have other behavioural issues and will require much more frequent cleaning up after.

It is recommended your enclosed, rainproof chicken coop is set away from neighbouring fences, and that there is consideration of the location of the coop structure to avoid any nuisance. It is advised that you speak with your neighbours before taking ownership of any chickens. Providing facilities for roosting (e.g. perches), a surface for pecking and

scratching, and a secluded nesting area is an expectation of chicken owners. Perches should be quite wide (around 10 centimetres), positioned off the ground and in a manner so chickens are able to comfortably perch when roosting. Poultry will also need enrichment and mental stimulation, this can be provided with food, toys such as swings, and an area to dust bathe in.

Poultry hygiene

Responsible animal ownership includes ensuring they do not cause public health concerns. Owners need to ensure they do as much as possible to keep the area clean, with chicken coops thoroughly cleaned out at least once a week. Nesting boxes and the floor of your chicken coop should be kept clean and dry. You could line them with hay, untreated wood chips, sawdust, or shredded newspaper so it can be easily removed when cleaned out.

To avoid unpleasant smells, attracting flies to breed, mice to shelter and/or rats looking for food, owners should not allow excess food and chicken bedding waste to accumulate. At least once a week, make sure waste is collected, bagged, and disposed of. Scattering food across the ground can attract rodents. Owners can control this by using vermin proof receptacles specifically for poultry feeding. This also keeps the rain out, meaning your poultry have dry pellets or grain. Food should also be stored out of reach of rats, in a sealed shed.

Sourcing your chickens

Remember that when hatching chickens from eggs, 50 percent of eggs hatched may be roosters. In urban areas this can result in roosters that cannot be kept without permission. Ethically sourced poultry is recommended, such as rescue hens. Battery farms often only keep hens for around 14 months and then they require new homes.

Poultry care courses

There are courses available locally within Wellington to help with the basics of choosing the appropriate poultry for your situation and getting the right set up for your chickens and poultry to be comfortable. Gaining practical knowledge and experience prior to obtaining poultry is recommended.

Poultry Costs

The costs of poultry and poultry set-ups vary. Chickens from suppliers generally charge \$15 to \$30 per chicken depending on the breed. Rescue hens that have been discarded by local factories are available from Helping You Help Animals for \$5. Chicken coops vary as they can be self-made, bought second hand from Trade Me or for as much as \$400 to \$500 new. A chicken run is also required. These require chicken wire and stakes generally sourced from hardware stores or Trade Me. There are other ongoing costs also such as food and veterinary care. Arrangements will also have to be made for the care of your poultry whilst you are travelling.

Emergency Preparedness

All poultry owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies. This can be part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:

- at least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal
- a means of moving an animal to a safe a location in case of need to evacuate, such as a box to contain your poultry
- a backup plan in case primary caregivers are unable to take care of animals.

Resolving disputes

If you suspect your or your neighbour's poultry has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.

If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444.

If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call SPCA on 389 8044.

Further information

Further information can be found on WCC website - <http://www.wellington.govt.nz>

- Animal Bylaw (2016)
- Animal Policy (2017)
- Animal Welfare Act

Proposed Bee Factsheet

Beekeeping is becoming more popular in Wellington with more people choosing to care for bees. Bees are very important for the environment as they pollinate crops and gardens. However bees kept in urban areas have the potential to cause a nuisance and therefore good hive management is important.

Beekeeping – the basics

Bees forage for nectar, pollen, and water within a radius of up to 3 kilometres from the hive. The presence of too many bees in a single area can cause competition for food sources. It is not recommended that properties in urban areas have more than four hives, as this ensures enough food sources for all bees in the area and bee numbers do not become a nuisance or intimidate neighbours.

Minimising nuisances

Flight path management

Depending on the size and suitability of your property, consider the number of hives, suitability of fencing, and controls to limit potential nuisances. Hives should be positioned so they don't become a nuisance, preferably in a sheltered and sunny spot. Avoid placing hives close to a neighbour's house or driveway, or near frequently used areas such as vegetable gardens, clotheslines, or children's play areas. In a residential section the hive should be situated behind a 2-metre high fence, trellis, or hedge so that the bees have to fly up above anyone walking around – especially your next door neighbour.

Bees defecate small round waxy yellow spots usually soon after leaving the hive and sometimes beekeepers receive complaints from neighbours about bee droppings on windows, freshly washed cars, and washing. If bee flightpaths become a nuisance, the problem may be alleviated by turning the hive so that the entrance faces a different direction or moving it to another location on the section (no more than 1 to 2 metres per day otherwise bees may get lost). It is important that flightpaths are not directed across pathways on private and public land. Beekeeping associations may be able to provide further advice on this topic (see below).

Water

Beekeepers should provide water within several metres of the hive if no natural resources are available. This will reduce visits by thirsty bees to neighbours' wet washing, swimming pools, and bird baths etc. Provide water by letting a tap drip very slowly into a shallow dish or tray containing sand or pebbles (so bees won't drown when drinking).

Nectar/Pollen

Bees should have access to a variety of bee-friendly plants and trees preferably as close to the hive as possible. Garden catalogues often identify which plants attract bees. You can also visit <http://www.treesforbees.org.nz>.

Swarm prevention

Although swarming is the natural means of dispersal of honey bee colonies, responsible beekeepers can minimise swarming in urban areas by re-queening on an annual basis, splitting a nucleus colony from populous hives (artificial swarming), and re-queening colonies that have been started from swarms.

Community Beekeeping

Permission is required to keep bees on any Council administered land, such as parks and reserves. Applications are assessed by the Council, and may be granted subject to

conditions. If a licence is approved, a fee is payable. For more information on applications and the conditions, please see Wellington City Council Guidelines for Community Beekeeping on Public Land, available on the website.

Legal Requirements

Beekeepers are required by law to register their apiary withASUREQuality Ltd to enable surveillance of hives for exotic pests and diseases. Beekeepers must display their Apiary Registration number at each apiary (usually on each hive). More information on pest management can be found at afb.org.nz. Monitoring needs to be carried out to protect honey bees from exotic pests and diseases.

It is not necessary to obtain a licence from the Council to keep bees on private land in Wellington City.

Starting with Bees

The best way to test your liking for beekeeping is to gain practical experience before you get hives of your own – either with an individual beekeeper or by joining the local beekeeping club. If you are not prepared to look after hives properly, do not get any. Varroa is a parasitic mite that will kill any colonies that are not managed on a regular basis, and neglected hives are a nuisance to the public and a potential source of bee diseases. In general, hives will need to be checked or ‘worked’ by the beekeeper at least every three weeks in summer and about once or twice over the winter months.

Beekeeper Costs

You will need a protective suit (usually one-piece that includes a veil), gumboots, gloves, a smoker and hive tool (about \$250 in total). An initial hive with four boxes will cost about \$400, a nucleus colony of bees with a new queen (\$250). Apiary registration (a legal requirement) costs about \$35. All up you should be prepared to pay about \$1,000 initially for one hive. Two hives will cost about \$1650 in total. It is recommended that you start with two nucleus colonies as an insurance against one queen failing. If this happens you can unite the hives or swap broods between them.

Resolving issues

If you suspect your or your neighbour’s bees have become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.

If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444.

Further information

Further information can be found on WCC website - <http://www.wellington.govt.nz>

- Animal Bylaw (2016)
- Animal Policy (2017)

Other useful websites about bees and beekeeping:

Wellington Beekeepers Association - <http://www.beehive.org.nz/>

American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan – <http://www.afb.org.nz>

Trees For Bees - <http://www.treesforbees.org.nz>

ASUREQuality - <http://www.asurequality.com>

Apiculture NZ - www.apinz.org.nz

Proposed Livestock Factsheet

Traditional stock and companions?

Wellingtonians on occasion have keep animals as pets that were traditionally kept as livestock. This includes sheep, pigs, llamas, alpacas, donkeys, goats, cattle, and horses. However, in urban areas, there is higher probability that nuisance may occur. Whether kept as pets or for the purpose of being farmed, responsible ownership is vital. To ensure the happy lives of Wellington's pets, factors such as nutrition, a safe home, health, activities and play and ensuring a positive mental state are vital. This factsheet provides advice on how these elements can be provided for your livestock.

Stock animals – the basics

As with all animals, livestock rely on owners to provide for a number of essentials. Responsible pet ownership helps ensure animals do not create any nuisance or welfare related issues. Before obtaining any livestock the suitability and size of your property should be considered for the type of stock in mind. All animals require shelter and a form of housing, to be contained on a property with fencing, drainage, and waste disposal to limit any potential nuisances. It is also important to remember that you are responsible for the health of your animal, including veterinary care.

Caring for your livestock

Stock animals need to be provided with fresh food and water daily and to be kept in clean environments, with dry and warm sleeping areas. A number of materials can be used for such purposes, such as hay, sawdust, and untreated wood chips that should be cleaned and replaced at least once a week.

Hygiene

Responsible ownership includes ensuring your livestock do not cause public health concerns. Owners need to ensure they do as much as possible to keep the area in and around a stock housing structure clean.

It is strongly recommended that cleaned out bedding is removed from the property within a week. Vermin such as mice and rats can become an issue if food is left out and on the ground. Rat and mouse excrement can contaminate livestock feed and water, as well as expose humans to the diseases rats and mice carry in their excrement. Vermin proof receptacles are available, which also keep out the rain, providing stock with good access to food.

Tethering of stock animals

Tethering is sometimes used as a method of confining animals. Such a method should only be carried out for temporary and short periods of time. If tethering is necessary, the animal must be checked on regularly, at least once every 12 hours to check there is enough food and water and that the animal has not become entangled. Clean fresh water should be placed well within the perimeter of the tether, as well as supplementary food where grazing is not possible. There should also be shelter from weather conditions. A strong tether such as a light chain with a durable collar is recommended to keep the animal secure.

Walking your stock in public

Exercise and mental stimulation is important for all animals. As with dogs, it is important that stock be kept on a lead and under control at all times. This will ensure the safety of the animal and members of the community. Any mess left by the animal should also be appropriately cleaned up and disposed of.

Emergency Preparedness

All livestock owners should develop their own plans to care for their animals during emergencies as part of a wider household emergency plan. Animal owners should plan to have:

- At least 7 days' worth of food and water per animal
- A means of moving an animal to a safe a location in case of need to evacuate
- A back up plan in case primary caregivers are unable to take care of animals.

Goat Tags

The population of feral goats is managed in Wellington and therefore all owned goats must wear an ear tag (an RFID, radio frequency identification device or similar) or collar to indicate they are not feral.

Resolving disputes

If you suspect your or your neighbour's livestock has become a source of nuisance it is recommended you speak with your neighbour about the situation in the first instance. In most circumstances such matters can be resolved quickly in this manner.

If problems persist, please call Council on 499 4444

If you suspect there are animal welfare issues, please call the SPCA on 389 8044

Further information

Further information can be found on the following websites: www.wellington.govt.nz

- Animal Bylaw (2016)
- Animal Policy (2017)
- www.mpi.govt.nz
- Animal Welfare (Goats), Code of Welfare 2012

3. Public Excluded

Resolution to Exclude the Public:

THAT the City Strategy Committee :

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

General subject of the matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
3.1 Acquisition of Land	7(2)(h) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. 7(2)(i) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).	s48(1)(a) That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under Section 7.
3.2 Sale of land under the Local Government (Rating Act) 2002	7(2)(a) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person. 7(2)(h) The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under Section 7.